

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A remote computer management system comprising:
a plurality of remote computers;
at least one user interface unit coupled to a keyboard, video monitor and cursor control device, said user interface unit comprising circuitry for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals; and
a plurality of computer interface units, each of said computer interface units being
coupled to one of said remote computers, said computer interface units comprising circuitry for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals, and a signaling circuit for generating a signal upon detection of a specific event; and
a computer management unit which bi-directionally communicates with said user interface unit and said computer interface unit;
wherein said computer interface unit bi-directionally communicates with said user interface unit over a network; and
wherein said computer management unit provides a link on said video monitor to enable access to a select one of said plurality of remote computers upon said detection of said specific event.
2. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is an audible signal.

3. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is a visual signal.
4. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit produces a first response in response to said signaling circuit signal and a second response to a second signaling circuit signal.
5. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is produced in response to a hardware or software failure on said remote computer.
6. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is produced in response to a firmware upgrade on said remote computer.
7. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is produced in response to the completion of a firmware upgrade on said computer interface unit.
8. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal indicates the status of an upgrade to said remote computer.
- 9-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said ~~system further comprises a~~ computer management unit is coupled to each of said computer interface

units, ~~wherein said computer management unit~~ and enables bi-directional communication among said user interface units and said remote computers.

14. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1 ~~13~~, wherein said user interface unit sends a request to said computer interface unit via said computer management unit.

15. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 14 ~~15~~, wherein said signaling circuit signal is generated in response to said request.

16. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein said signaling circuit signal is transmitted to said user interface unit, which displays a notification message on said video monitor upon receipt of said signaling circuit signal.

17. (Previously Presented) A remote device management system comprising:
a plurality of remote interface modules, each said remote interface module for physically connecting to keyboard, cursor control device and video cables of one a plurality of remote devices and for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals;

a signaling circuit within said remote interface module responsive to a signaling circuit control signal, wherein said signaling circuit is capable of generating a signal in response to said signaling circuit control signal;

at least one management unit coupled to each of said remote interface modules;
and

at least one user interface device coupled to a keyboard, cursor control device,

and video monitor for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals;

wherein said user interface device is capable of producing said signaling circuit control signal; and

wherein each said remote interface module is connected via a single network cable to said management unit.

18. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal indicates the status of said remote devices.

19. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal indicates the status of said remote interface modules.

20. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal is transmitted to said user interface device and upon receipt of said response signal, a status message is displayed on said video monitor.

21. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said response signal is an audible signal.

22. (Currently Amended) In a system comprising at least one user interface device and a plurality of remote devices each coupled to a one of a plurality of interface modules, a method of managing said plurality of remote devices comprising the steps of:
monitoring for events at said plurality of remote devices via said interface module comprising a signaling circuit;

detecting said event at said interface module;
producing a response signal in response to said event detection;
transmitting said signal to said user interface device; ~~and~~
displaying a notification message on a video monitor in response to said
transmitted signal; and
providing a link to enable access to a select one of said plurality of remote
devices;
wherein said notification message indicates an occurrence of said event.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein said event includes at least one from the group comprising a firmware upgrade, status update, hardware failure or software failure.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein said signaling circuit produces said response signal.